

Green County
Agriculture and Extension Education Committee
September 4, 2019 MINUTES

The September 4, 2019 meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee was called to order at 12:34 PM by Chair Ken Hodgson. Members present were: Ken Hodgson, Oscar Olson, Art Carter, and Erica Roth. Jody Hoesly was absent. Also present was Paul Ohlrogge, Extension Area Director and Jayne Butts, Extension Green County Office Manager,

Motion to approve the minutes of the August 2019 meeting was made by Olson, second Carter. Motion carried.

Green County Educator Reports—

- **Jackie McCarville:** Paul Ohlrogge presented a written report for Jackie detailing her activities the past few months. Paul highlighted “Paving the Way” (helping farmers make future farm decisions); working with Amish Farmers to submit articles to their Wisconsin Shopper magazine; working on a multi-cultural letter with María José Fuenzalida, Dane County UWEX; and teaching “animal safety” at Rural Safety Day in Darlington, Sept 25th.

The committee reviewed the UW-Extension office bills for August 2019. The EFT payments totaled \$667.06 and the check payments totaled \$1,545.33. Motion made by Carter, second by Roth, to approve the vouchers for payment. Motion carried.

Butts presented the 2020 Preliminary Budgets for Tractor Safety, Clean Sweep, Pesticide Applicator Training, and Extension. Explanations were given for the line item details including effects on the tax levy. Tractor Safety, Clean Sweep, and Pesticide Applicator Training do not affect the tax levy as they are self-sustaining from grant money or fees generated. The UW-Extension budget shows an increase of 6.06%, or \$17,773.00 which is the amount of the Water Trends Study, that was previously approved by the County Board. Olson moved to approve the budgets as presented, Carter seconded. Motion passed.

Paul Ohlrogge, Area Director and Jayne Butts, Office Manager, Extension Green County:

Health and Well Being Educator: Ohlrogge discussed a positive meeting with Lafayette County on the position and a desire to move forward with the 60/40 split as before. Discussion was made regarding the job description, noting it seems to have a good representation of what is expected for the position. Mental Health Awareness will be requested as a key part of the programming. Olson questioned the need for Hispanic/Spanish Speaking Involvement/Culture and Ohlrogge reported as long as the hispanic awareness is understood, that should suffice. Butts noted mileage, expense reports, and things that cause unnecessary frustrations need to be resolved before the job is filled, but not before it is posted. Roth moved to accept the position posting and Olson second. Motion passed.

Food Wise Nutrition Educator: Ohlrogge noted the posting closes today and then applicants will be reviewed for possible interviews. This position will be working primarily with low-income school focused groups. The home office will be in Iowa County, with Donna Peterson being the direct supervisor. It is hoped the position will be able to be filled after the first round of interviews.

Regional Water Specialist: Ohlrogge met with the person coordinating the programs and feels with the water studies being done in our counties, this would be a good fit. If the counties are in agreement, in 2020, the position would be provided free of charge, with no impact to the budget. Beginning in 2021, however, each county would be liable for a \$9,000 contribution to maintain the position. Ohlrogge discussed meeting with Ag Educators, Land & Water Directors, Ag & Extension Committee Chairs, and possibly County Board Chairs to review the prospective ideas for this position. It was further noted this is an educational position, not a regulatory position. Water Specialists are proving to be very effective and will work well with various County Departments, as well as farmers throughout the counties. Follow up will continue.

Water Trend Study: Carter questioned when this program will be start. Ohlrogge responded stating it should begin soon.

The next meeting will be scheduled for October 2nd, 2019 at 12:30pm.

Motion by Carter, second by Olson to adjourn at 1:34 pm. Motion carried.